

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

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CHP FARM LABOR AND AG VEHICLE SWEEPS TOTALED 275 STOPS

SACRAMENTO – During its one-day sweep last Thursday, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) totaled 275 stops in predawn and afternoon strike force actions to ensure farm workers and agricultural haulers are traveling in safe vehicles to and from work.

CHP personnel pulled 40 vehicles out of service because the vehicles were unsafe to continue on the road.

“We’re going to continue to put pressure on farm labor vehicle owners and agricultural haulers,” Helmick said. “Agricultural workers should be able to count on safe transportation.”

Of the 275 vehicles stopped by the CHP, 166 were classified as farm labor vehicles (nine passengers or more) and 101 of those did not have valid farm labor vehicle certification. The remaining 109 vehicles that were stopped included agricultural vehicles or vehicles that carried less than nine passengers.

Officers and CHP commercial vehicle inspectors found more than 485 violations ranging from mechanical problems with brakes, lights and tires to improper driver’s licensing and certification.

The strike force teams moved first in the predawn hours to intercept vehicles driving to agricultural areas and then in the afternoon on the way home from work.

Thirteen agricultural workers were killed in a farm labor vehicle crash August 9 while they were returning from the fields.
